

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-10 and 16-21 are canceled with out prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein, claims 11-15 are amended for clarity, and claims 22-29 are added. No new matter is added by this Amendment.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 11-15 are allowed. Claims 11-15 are amended for clarity and still include the same subject matter deemed to be allowable. Accordingly, claims 11-15 are still in condition for allowance.

II. Claim Objection

Claim 18 is objected to because of an informality. Claim 18 is canceled; thus, this objection is moot.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 6, 8-10, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,451,457 (Taguchi); claims 1, 5 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Publication No. 2004/0169462 (Sasaki); and claims 1, 2, 4 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Publication No.2004/0119406 (Kobayashi). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 16-19 are canceled. Thus, with respect to claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 16-19 these rejections are moot. Furthermore, with respect to new claims 22-29, for the following reasons, Taguchi, Sasaki, and Kobayashi each fail to anticipate the subject matter of new claims 22-29.

With respect to the rejections in view of Sasaki and Kobayashi, Sasaki and Kobayashi are not prior art to the present application. Sasaki was filed on December 15, 2003 and was published on September 2, 2004. Kobayashi was filed on October 28, 2003 and was

published on June 24, 2004. However, the present application claims priority to JP 2003-308968, which was filed on September 1, 2003. The claim for priority was made, and the priority document was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, on January 16, 2004. The priority date of the present application precedes the filing and publication dates of Sasaki and Kobayashi. Accordingly, Sasaki and Kobayashi are not prior art.

Enclosed herein is a verified English-language translation of JP 2003-308968.

With respect to the rejection of the claims in view of Taguchi, Taguchi fails to disclose the subject matter of claims 22-24, as well as the claims depending therefrom.

More specifically, Taguchi discloses a method of forming an electron transport layer and an electron injection layer in the form of a solution or dispersion in an appropriate solvent (using, e.g., a spin coating, cast coating or dip coating method). However, Taguchi does not disclose a method of manufacturing an organic electroluminescence device, the method including a step of individually forming a plurality of types of electron transport layers in a liquid phase process, as recited in independent claims 22-24.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Taguchi fails to anticipate the subject matter of claims 22-24, as well as the claims depending therefrom. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2002/0130612 (Morrissy); and claims 7, 18, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Taguchi in view of U.S. Publication No. 2001/0001050 (Miyashita). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 3, 4, 7, 18, 20 and 21 are canceled. Thus, with respect to claims 3, 4, 7, 18, 20 and 21 these rejections are moot. Furthermore, with respect to new claims 22-29, for the

following reasons, Morrissy, Taguchi, and Miyashita, in any combination, fail to render obvious the subject matter of new claims 22-29.

Morrissy discloses a method of disposing a liquid material (a solution of LiF) on an organic layer.

Miyashita discloses a method of making an organic electroluminescence element, the method including the step of discharging a liquid material inside an opening of an organic bank layer.

However, Taguchi, Morrissy and Miyashita, alone or in combination, do not disclose a method of manufacturing an organic electroluminescence device, the method including individually forming a plurality of types of electron transport layers in a liquid phase process by use of liquid materials that are suitable for the plurality types of electron transport layers, as recited in independent claim 22.

By combination of the individual forming and the liquid phase process, selective application of the forming material can be performed. This benefit is also not taught or suggested by Taguchi, Morrissy and/or Miyashita.

Furthermore, Taguchi, Morrissy and Miyashita do not disclose a method of manufacturing an organic electroluminescence device, the method including applying a liquid material that includes an inorganic element to a luminescent layer, and forming a second electrode over the luminescent layer and a bank that surrounds the luminescent layer, at least a part of the second electrode being formed on the bank, as recited in independent claim 23.

Furthermore, Taguchi, Morrissy and Miyashita do not disclose a method of manufacturing an organic electroluminescence device, the method including discharging a liquid material to a blue-color luminescent layer, the liquid material including an inorganic element such as a halide or an oxide of an alkali metal, an alkali earth metal, and a rare earth metal, as recited in independent claim 24.

For the foregoing reasons, Taguchi, Morrissy and/or Miyashita fail to render obvious the subject matter of claims 22-24, as well as the claims depending therefrom.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:

Verified English-language translation of JP 2003-308968

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